translation by funnuraba.tumblr.com

I had some extra free time this week, so this turned out to be a special yaoi double feature. Happy Valentine's Day!

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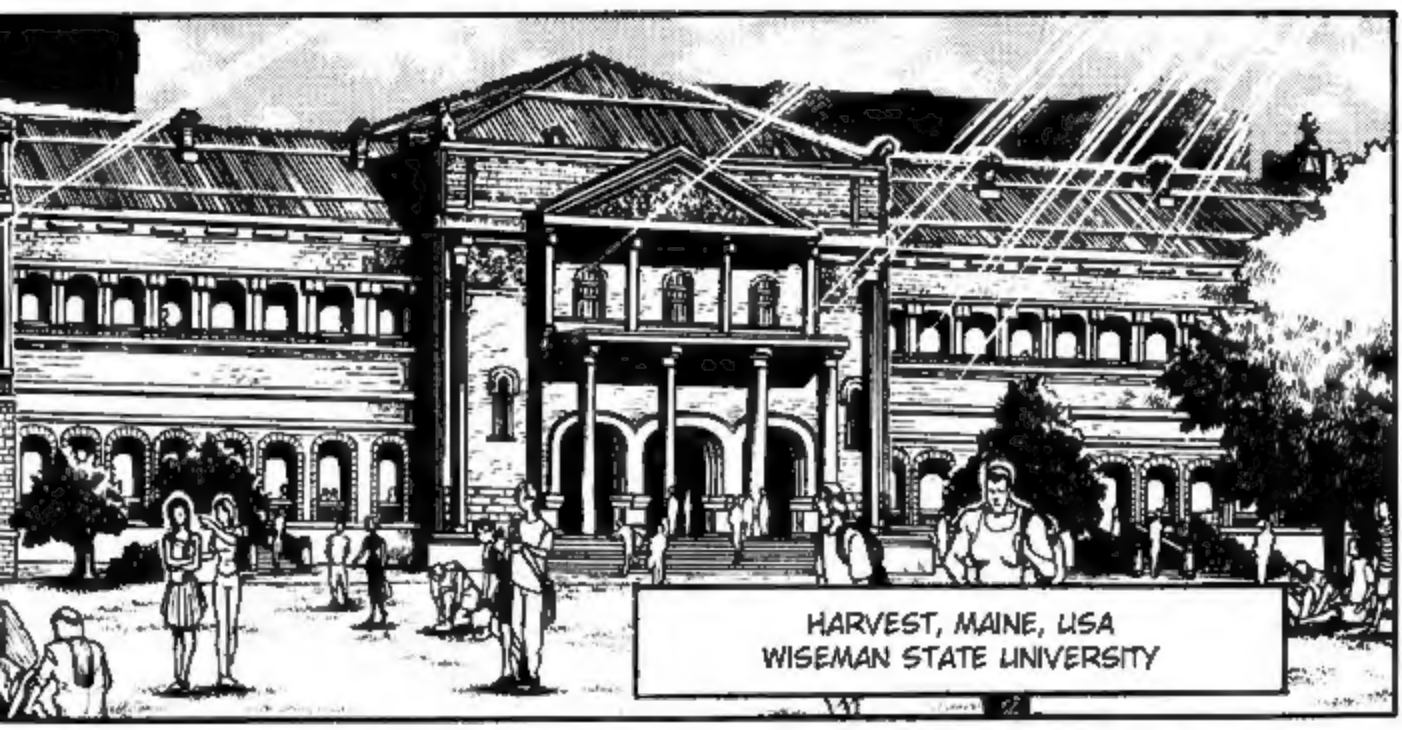
Thanks to Judash137 on the mangafox forums for removing the Japanese text, and to the anonymous person who tipped me off to that!

Any group with more experience or skill is welcome to take over at any time or to redo chapters I have already done if they are below the quality that this series deserves.

Act 2
Departure of the Shirogane-O



ARE THEY STU-DENTS HERE? WHAT A GLOOMY LOOK!
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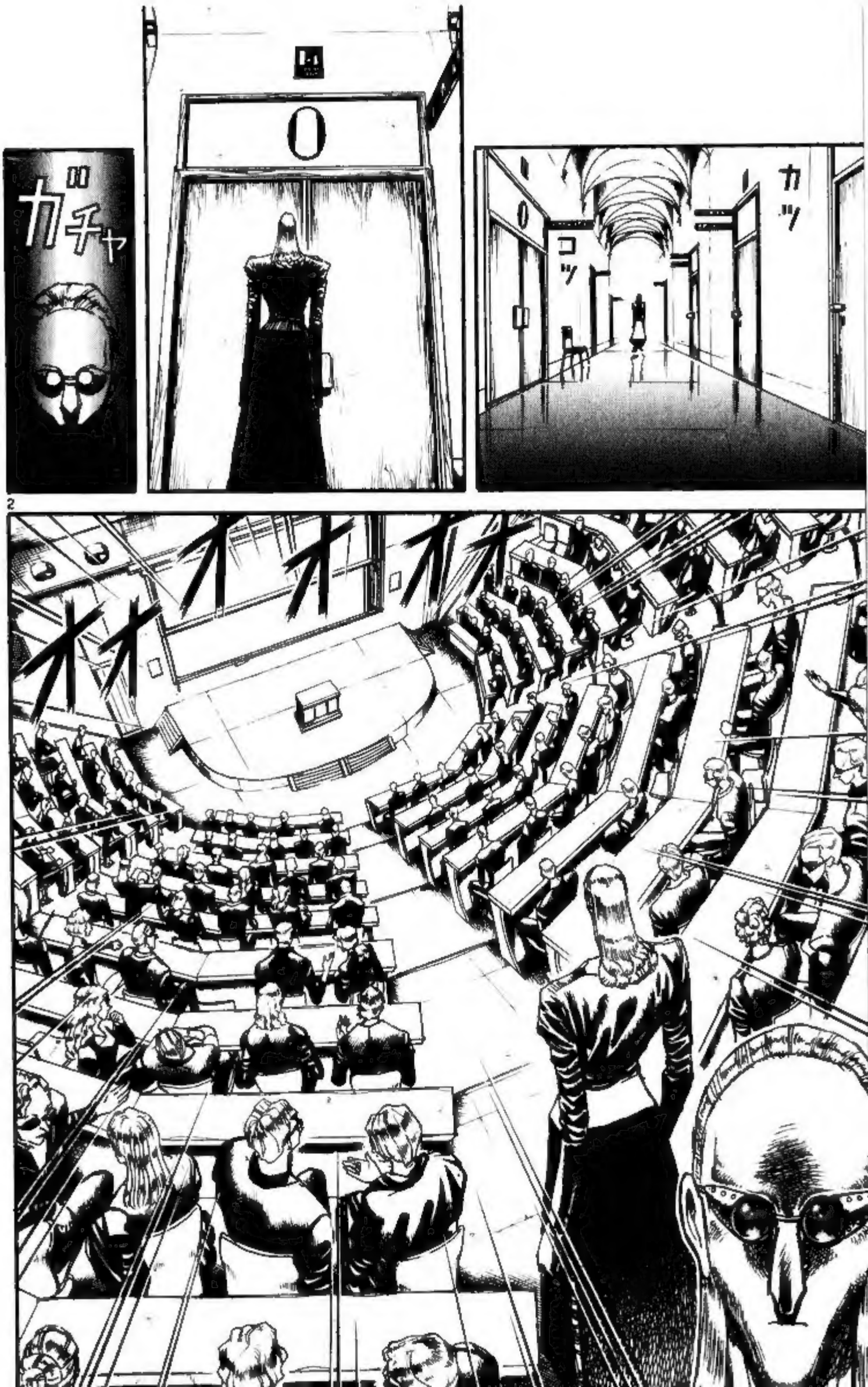
HEY, LOOK. WHAT'S UP WITH THAT? THERE SOME CONVENTION GOING ON FOR HORROR FANS?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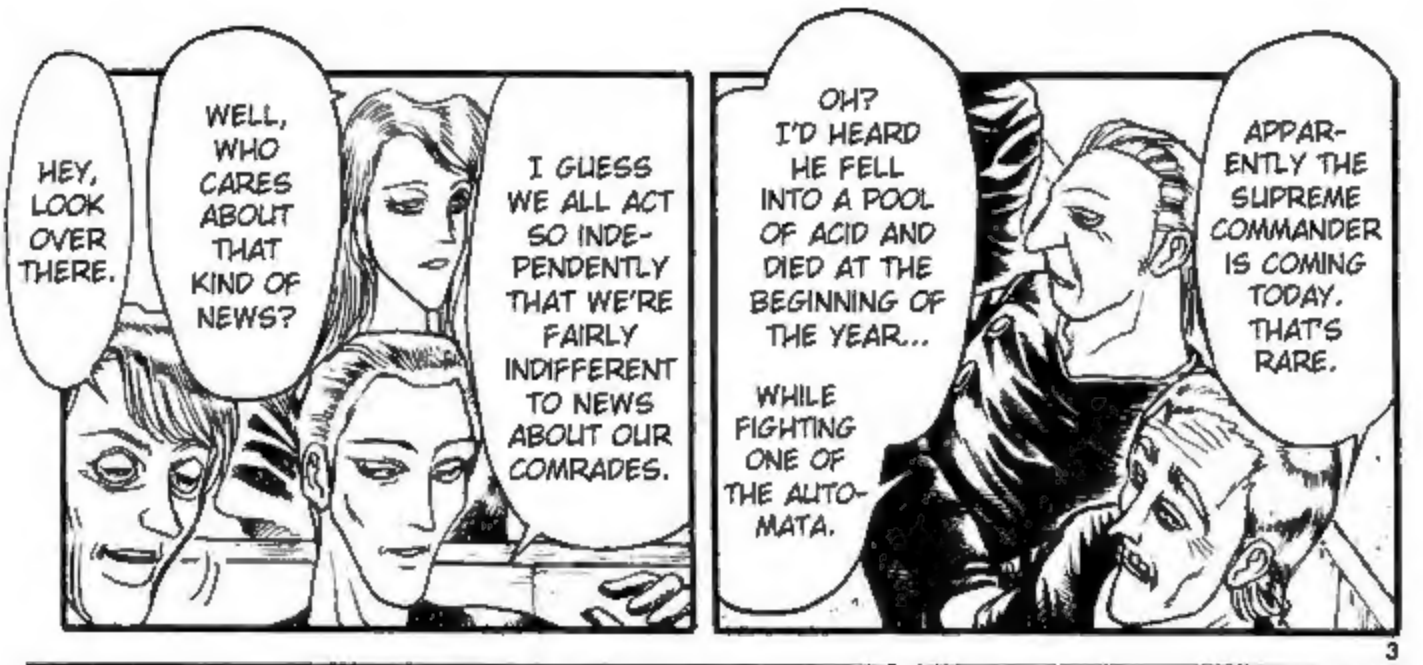
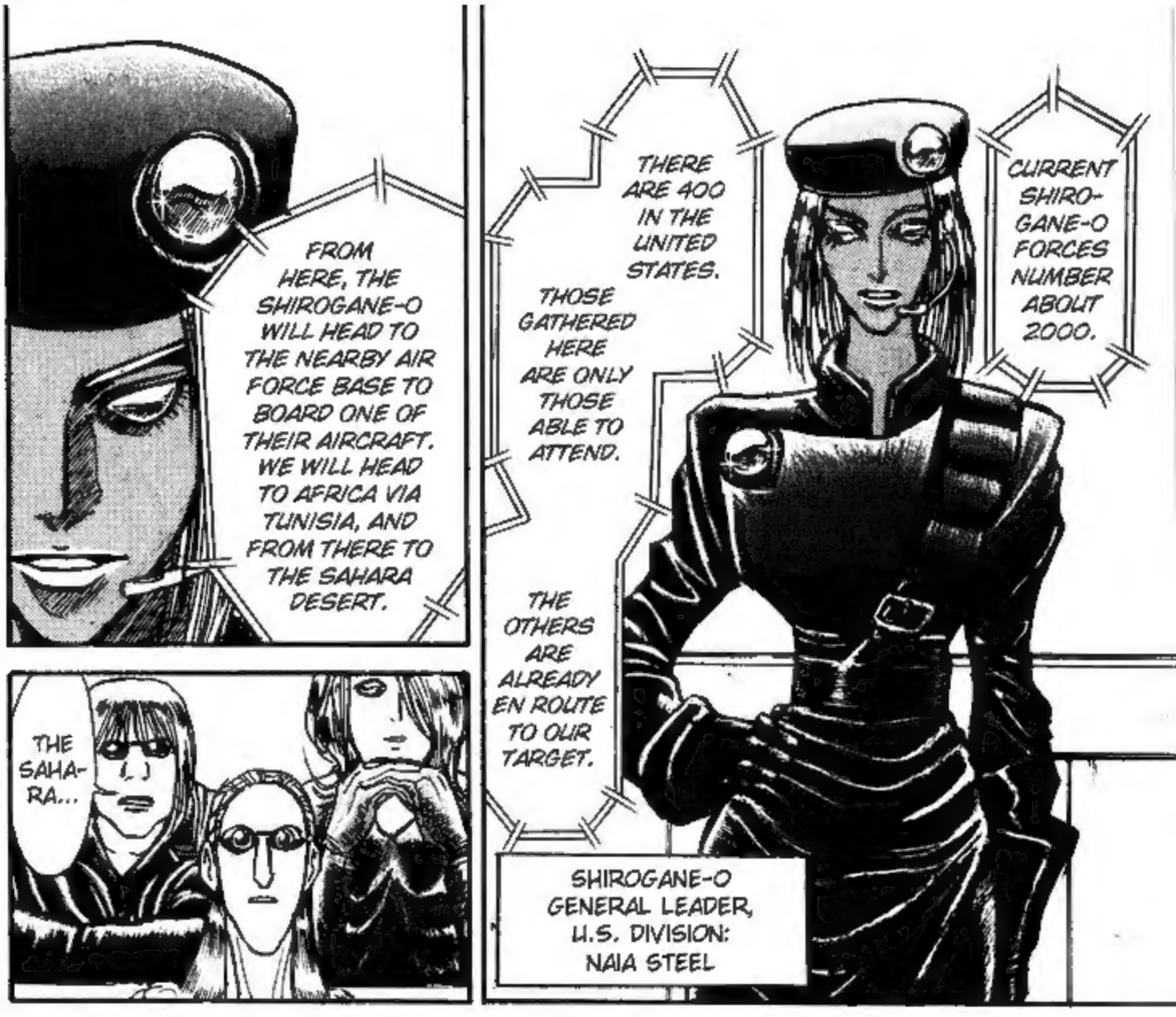

HEY, LOOK OVER THERE.
WELL, WHO CARES ABOUT THAT KIND OF NEWS?
I GUESS WE ALL ACT SO INDEPENDENTLY THAT WE'RE FAIRLY INDIFFERENT TO NEWS ABOUT OUR COMRADES.
OH? I'D HEARD HE FELL INTO A POOL OF ACID AND DIED AT THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR...
WHILE FIGHTING ONE OF THE AUTOMATA.
APPARENTLY THE SUPREME COMMANDER IS COMING TODAY. THAT'S RARE.

HMPH... ISN'T HE ASHAMED TO SHOW HIS FACE HERE?
I HEARD THAT NEWBIE WAS THERE TOO ...
SEEMS MADAME LUCILLE AND GUY WERE THERE, AND THEY SAVED HIM.

IT'S GEORGE.
OH, THE ONE WHO COULDN'T EVEN BEAT...
THOSE THIRTY OR SO DOLLS AT THAT INCIDENT AT THE ZONAPHA RESEARCH FACILITY IN ILLINOIS?
ざわ

IF IT WERE ME, I'D JUST CUT MY OWN THROAT AND BE DONE WITH IT!
PUT SIMPLY, GEORGE ISN'T EVEN AS GOOD AS ONE OF THEM.
WE SHIROGANE-O ARE SUPPOSED TO BE SUPERIOR TO REGULAR SHIROGANE IN EVERY RESPECT.

WE WILL BEGIN NOW.

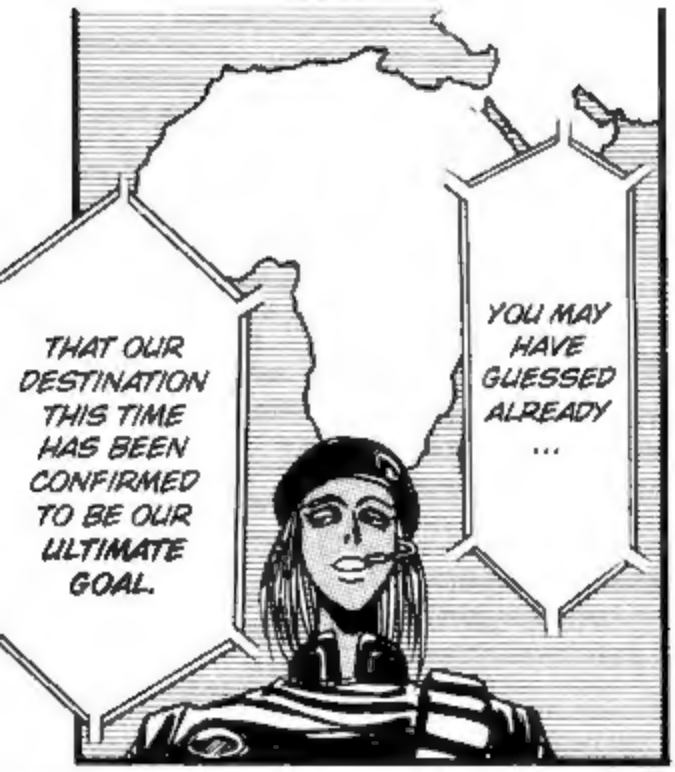

FROM HERE, THE SHIROGANE-O WILL HEAD TO THE NEARBY AIR FORCE BASE TO BOARD ONE OF THEIR AIRCRAFT. WE WILL HEAD TO AFRICA VIA TUNISIA, AND FROM THERE TO THE SAHARA DESERT.
THERE ARE 400 IN THE UNITED STATES.
THOSE GATHERED HERE ARE ONLY THOSE ABLE TO ATTEND.
THE OTHERS ARE ALREADY EN ROUTE TO OUR TARGET.
CURRENT SHIRO-GANE-O FORCES NUMBER ABOUT 2000.
SHIROGANE-O GENERAL LEADER, U.S. DIVISION: NAIA STEEL
THE SAHA-RA...

THIS MISSION WILL BE PAIRED WITH MILITARY ACTION.
DO NOT FORGET TO SET YOUR WATCHES TO LOCAL TIME.

REMEMBER THAT THERE ARE MANY DANGER ZONES IN LIBYA, WHICH IS NOT A PART OF THE SHIRO-GANE'S FREE ACTION PACT.
YOU ARE RESPON-SIBLE FOR YOUR OWN INDIVIDUAL SAFETY.

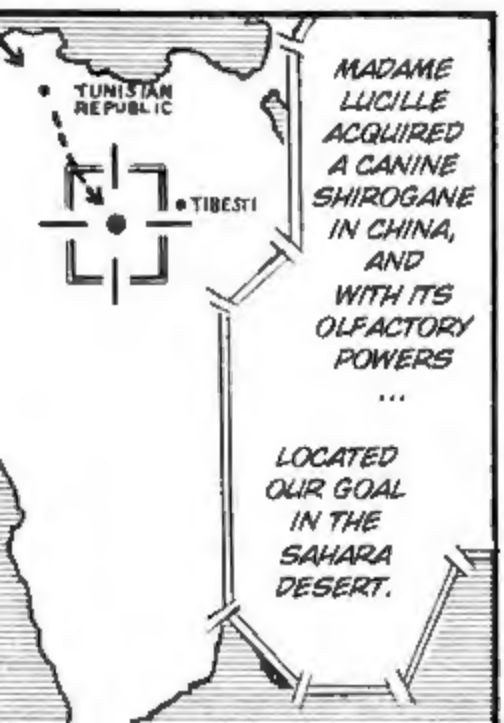
4

SERI-OUSLY.
ALL OF US GATHERING IN THE SAHARA AS ONE BIG GROUP? WE-EIRD.
MILITARY ACTION...? THAT'S PRETTY UNUSUAL. USUALLY WE ACT ALONE.


YOU MAY HAVE GUESSED ALREADY ...
THAT OUR DESTINATION THIS TIME HAS BEEN CONFIRMED TO BE OUR ULTIMATE GOAL.

IT CAN'T BE...
SHIROGANE FROM AROUND THE WORLD AMASSING IN THE SAHARA, INCLUDING THE SHIROGANE-O ...?
IF WE'RE DOING THAT ...

THE BACK-BONE OF THE AUTO-MATA ...
THE MID-NIGHT CIRCUS.


TUNISIAN REPUBLIC
TIBESTI
MADAME LUCILLE ACQUIRED A CANINE SHIROGANE IN CHINA, AND WITH ITS OLFACTORY POWERS ...
LOCATED OUR GOAL IN THE SAHARA DESERT.

FINALLY FOUND IT...?
WE'VE ...

ガッコーン
THAT INFORMATION HAS BEEN TRANSMITTED TO EVERY SHIROGANE IN THE WORLD.
AFTER A SPEECH FROM COMMANDER FACELESS, WE TOO WILL BE ON OUR WAY.
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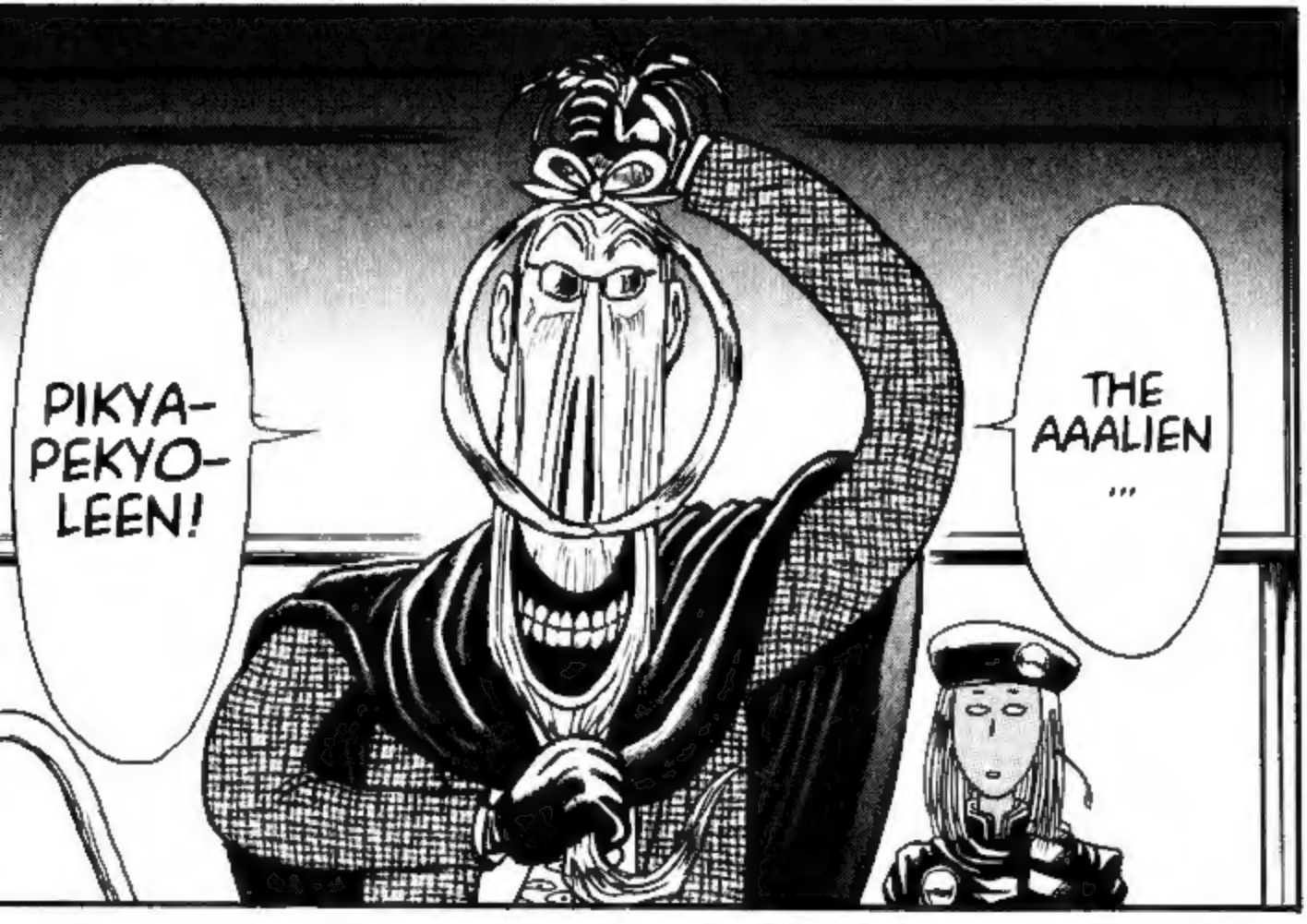
YES, LADIES, GENTLE-MEN, AND SHIRO-GANE-O...
I AM YOUR SU-PREME COM-MANDER ...
6


PIKYA-PEKYO-LEEN!
THE AALIEN ...

ALL OF YOU ARE HERE BECAUSE YOU HAVE SUFFERED THANKS TO THE ZONAPHA SYNDROME SPREAD BY THAT DAMNED CIRCUS.
YOU THEN DRANK AQUA VITAE AND BECAME SHIROGANE. FURTHERMORE, YOU HAVE UNDERGONE MY OPERATION AND BECOME STILL STRONGER AS SHIROGANE-O.

WELL, IT IS WHAT IT IS.
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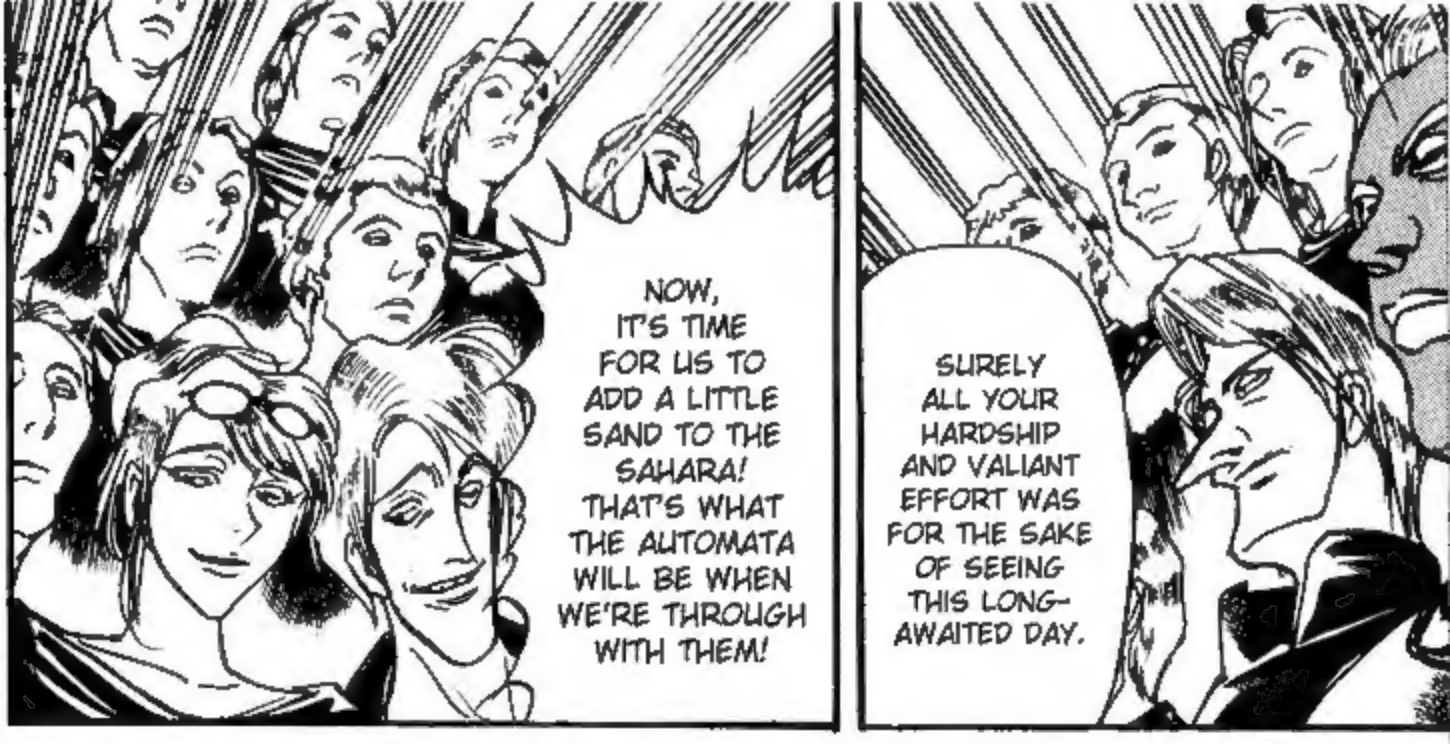
... SHEESH ...
YOU SHIROGANE-O ARE NO FUN.


NOW, IT'S TIME FOR US TO ADD A LITTLE SAND TO THE SAHARA! THAT'S WHAT THE AUTOMATA WILL BE WHEN WE'RE THROUGH WITH THEM!
SURELY ALL YOUR HARDSHIP AND VALIANT EFFORT WAS FOR THE SAKE OF SEEING THIS LONG-AWAITED DAY.

O AS IN ZERO! THE NUMBER OF AUTOMATA LEFT ALIVE!
O AS IN A CRY! THE O OF THE AUTOMATA'S SHOCK AND FEAR!
O AS IN A HEART! THAT O IS THE HEART OF THE SHIRO-GANE!
WE ARE THE SHIRO-GANE-O!

THERE IS A DIF-FERENT MISSION FOR YOU.
GEORGE LAROCHE ...

.....?

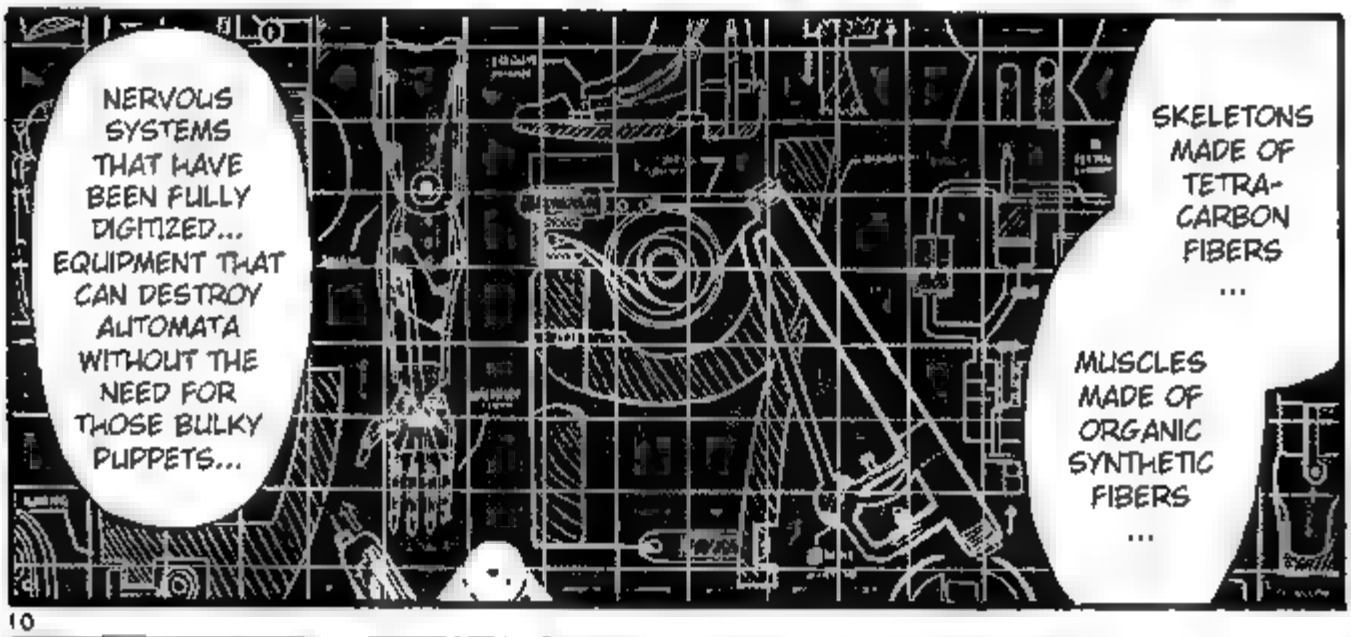
THE O THAT SPELLS THE END FOR THE AUTOMATA!
O AS IN ALPHA AND O-MEGA!

BUT... BUT, THE BATTLE... I...
.....
YOU WILL BE GOING TO JAPAN TO FETCH A MARIONETTE FOR THE USE OF MADAME LUCILLE.
OUR FIGHTING FORCES ...?
ARE YOU SAYING I AM NOT CONSIDERED PART OF ...
THE DETAILS ARE IN THIS FILE. THAT IS ALL. GO.
WHAT YOU NEED TO DO IS DELIVER THIS ITEM PROMPTLY.
THERE IS NO NEED FOR YOU TO FIGHT.

9

IS NOT SUPER-HUMAN.
SOME-ONE WHO HAS LOST EVEN ONCE ...
WE ARE THE SUPERHUMANS SELECTED BY GOD TO SAVE HUMANITY FROM THE AUTOMATON DEVILS.
JUST WHAT DO YOU THINK WE ARE?

"WE SHIROGANE ARE ALREADY CURSED BEINGS... WHY ADD STILL MORE ILL OMENS?" SHE SAID.
LUCILLE WAS NOT HAPPY ABOUT ME MAKING MORE OF YOU SHIRO-GANE-O.
CO... COMMANDER FACELESS ...


NERVOUS SYSTEMS THAT HAVE BEEN FULLY DIGITIZED... EQUIPMENT THAT CAN DESTROY AUTOMATA WITHOUT THE NEED FOR THOSE BULKY PUPPETS...
SKELETONS MADE OF TETRA-CARBON FIBERS ...
MUSCLES MADE OF ORGANIC SYNTHETIC FIBERS ...

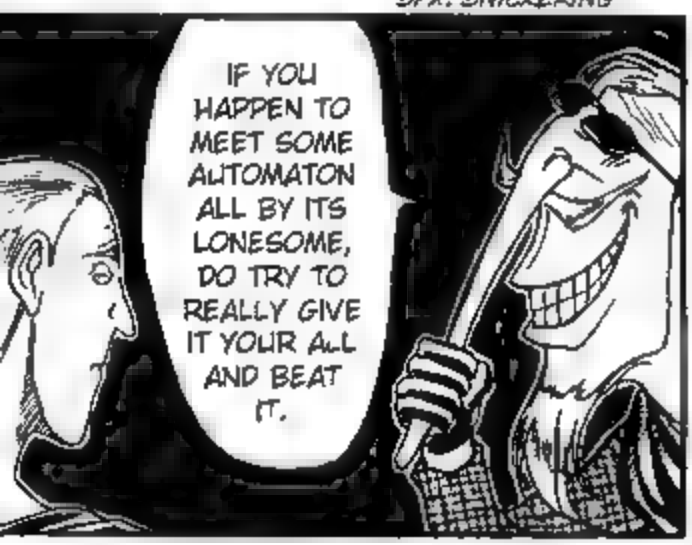
10

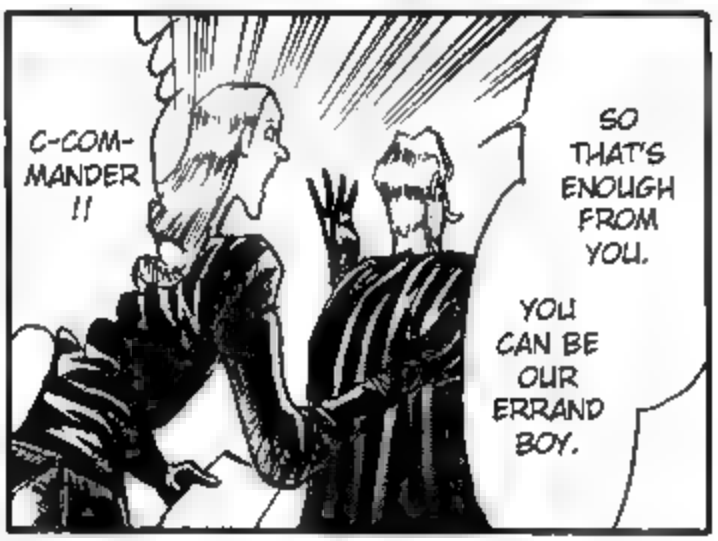
I'M... TERRIBLY SORRY.
.....

RIGHT IN FRONT OF LUCILLE, YOU WENT AND LOST TO THAT FOOL PAULMANN!

IN SPITE OF LUCILLE'S OBJECTIONS, I MADE YOU INTO SUPER-HUMANS... AND THEN...

SFX: SNICKERING


IF YOU HAPPEN TO MEET SOME AUTOMATON ALL BY ITS LONESOME, DO TRY TO REALLY GIVE IT YOUR ALL AND BEAT IT.

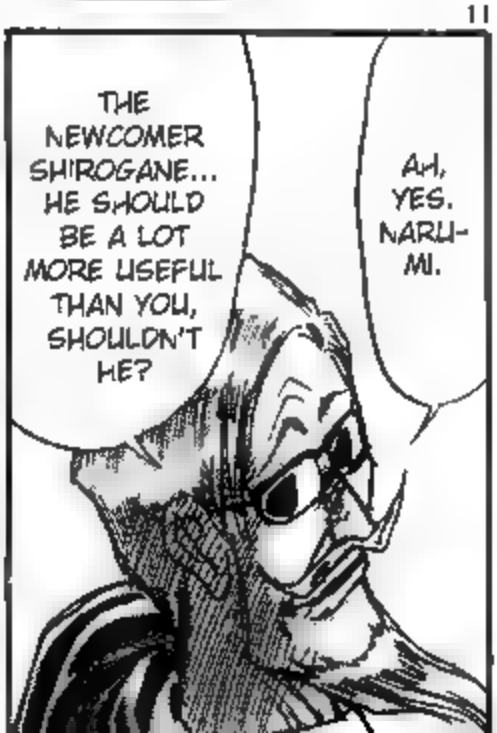

C-COM-MANDER !!
SO THAT'S ENOUGH FROM YOU.
YOU CAN BE OUR ERRAND BOY.

OH, RIGHT... WHAT WAS HIS NAME?

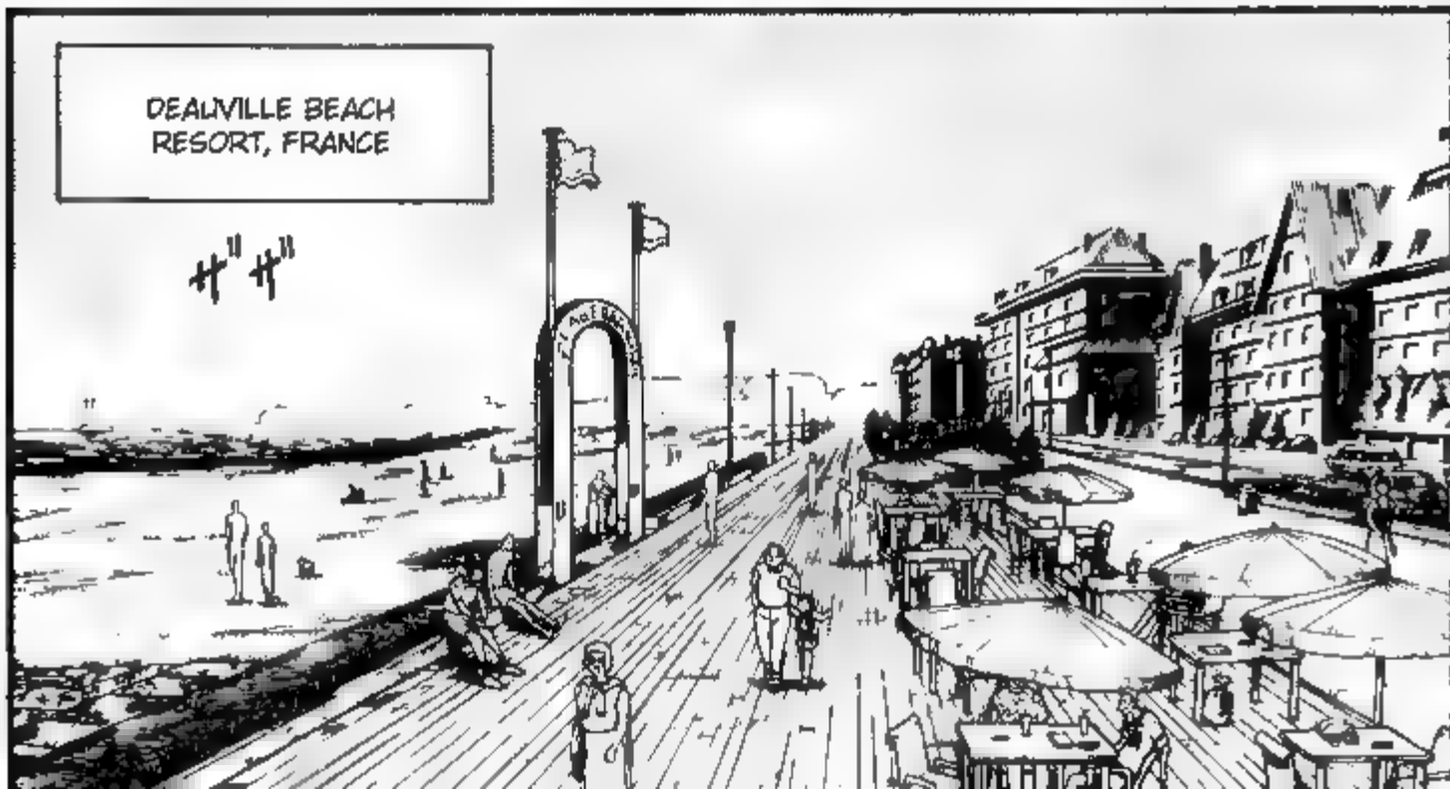
YES, SIR.
AHAHA! LET'S GO, NAIA.

CLENCH

AHAHAHA!


THE NEWCOMER SHIROGANE... HE SHOULD BE A LOT MORE USEFUL THAN YOU, SHOULDN'T HE?
AH, YES. NARU-MI.

KATOU ...!
NARUMI ...


DEAUVILLE BEACH RESORT, FRANCE

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GOOD-NESS... YOU'RE AWAKE AL-READY?

YOU WERE STAYING IN LAS VEGAS BEFORE THIS HOTEL, AND BEFORE THAT, SWITZERLAND? ARE YOU SOME MILLIONAIRE WHO JUST WANDERS FROM RESORT TO RESORT?
YOU REALLY ARE A STRANGE ONE.
YOU'RE JAPANESE, RIGHT? SAY, WHAT DO YOU DO FOR A LIVING?

THIS KIND OF THING... IS EASY ENOUGH TO FIX...

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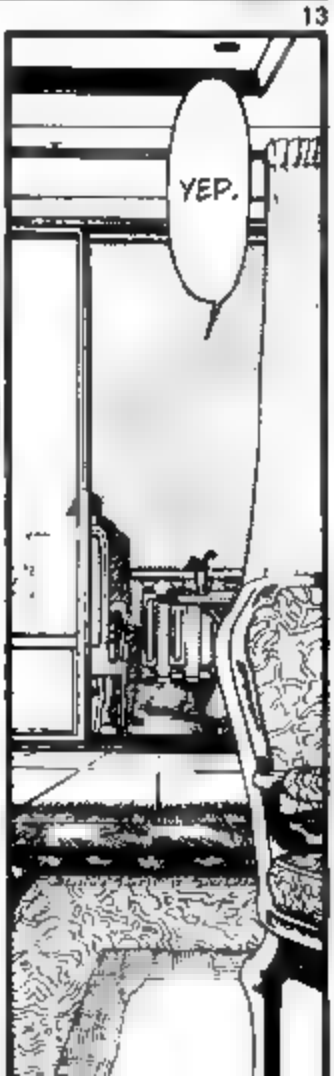
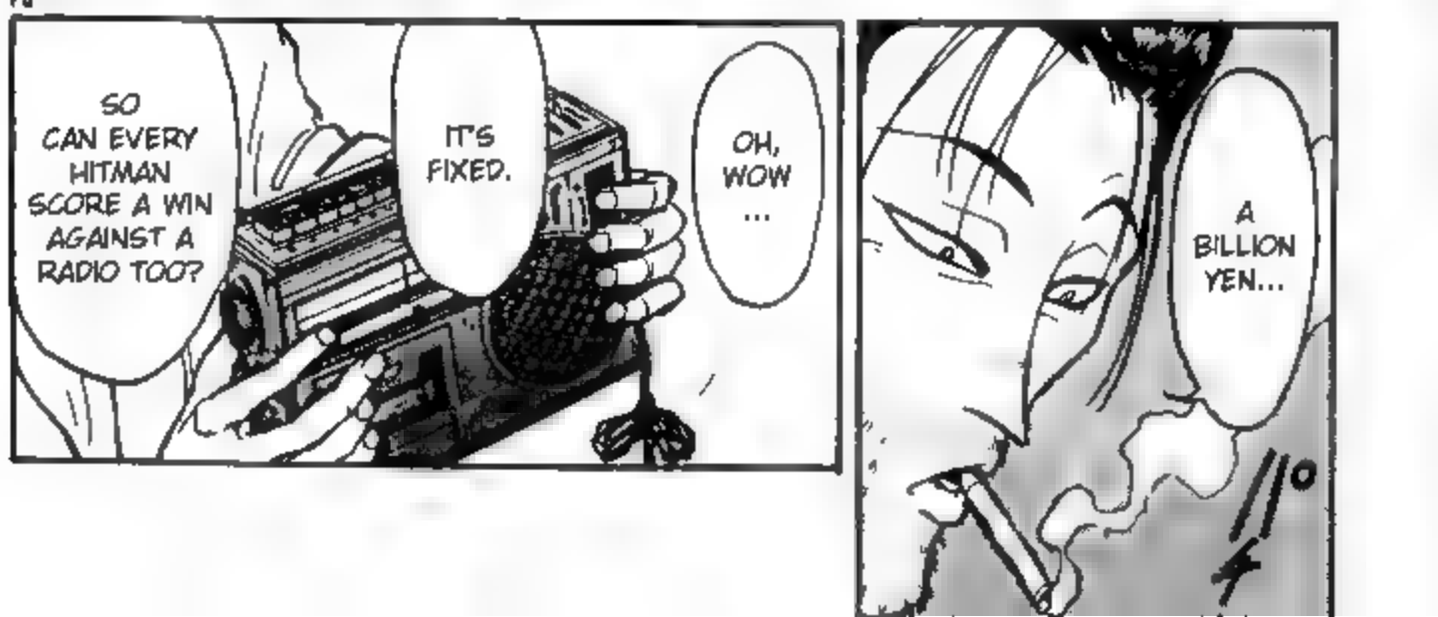
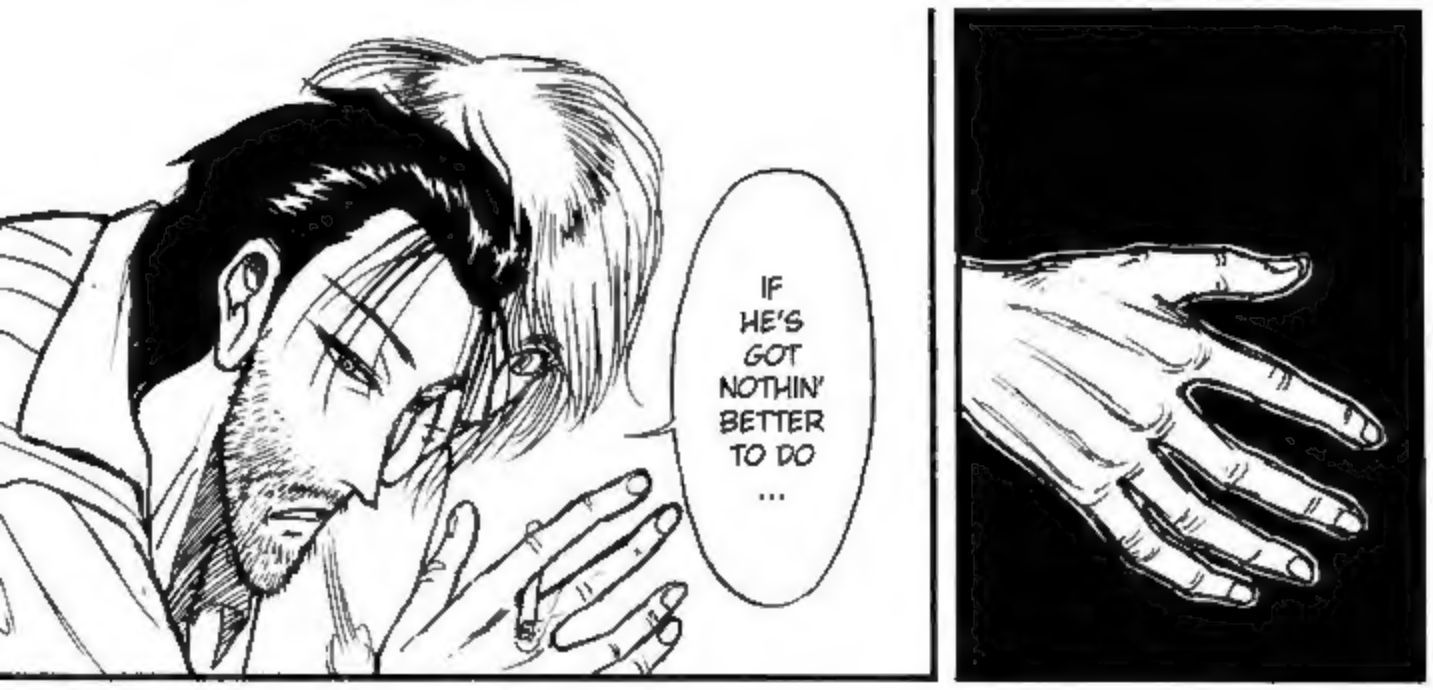
AREN'T YOU RICH?
TINKERING WITH THAT THING AGAIN? JUST BUY A NEW ONE IF IT'S BROKEN.


YEP.

I USED TO BE ...
A HITMAN.
AHAHA! YOU'RE SUCH A JOKER. SO YOU DID SOME BIG JOB...
AND ENDED UP WITH SO MUCH MONEY YOU THOUGH YOU'D GO ON A BIG FLASHY BENDER?
HOW MUCH DID YOU GET?


A BILLION YEN...
OH, WOW ...
IT'S FIXED.
SO CAN EVERY HITMAN SCORE A WIN AGAINST A RADIO TOO?


IF HE'S GOT NOTHIN' BETTER TO DO ...

FWAA ...

I'M TIRED OF WOMEN TOO.
DON'T.
YOU SEEM BORED. THEN, HOW ABOUT WE...

... SOUNDS FUN ...
.....

COME ON, NOW ...!
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YOU MADE SOME TROUBLE IN THE CASINO, DIDN'T YOU?
THERE'S SOME SCARY PEOPLE LOOKING FOR YOU.
WHY'S THAT?
BUT YOU SHOULD WATCH OUT FOR YOURSELF.
WELL, ALL RIGHT THEN.

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YOU'RE THAT JAPANESE ASSHOLE ASHIHANA, RIGHT?!
EEK!
ガ!!
THAT I AM ...
16
KINDA NICE... THAT FEELS ...
DID YOU THINK YOU WERE GONNA GET AWAY WITH THAT?!
AAH!

AND DO IT AL-RE-
I'M GONNA FUCKIN' KILL YA!
OH? BETTER HURRY UP...

A... A SPINNIN' BALL ...?!

WHAT ...
THE HELL?
WAHHH!

AND YOU ARE ...?
A HUMAN?
ASHI-HANA?
ARE YOU THE PUPPET USER FROM KUROGA ...

I AM GEORGE LAROCHE OF THE SHIRO-GANE-O.
I WISH TO ARRANGE WITH THE HEAD OF KUROGA VILLAGE...
FOR THE CREATION OF A MARIONETTE TO BE USED BY THE SHIROGANE LUCILLE VERNEUIL.